## Message Text

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**ACTION EB-07** 

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-11 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

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R 140220Z JAN 76 FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6058 INFO AMEMBASSY BONN AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652 N/A TAGS: EFIN, JA

SUBJECT: DEBT PROBELMS OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

REF: (A) STATE 3567 (B) TOKYO 17541-12/8,75, (C) STATE 257428-10/3/75

- 1. FINATT DISCUSSED SUBJECT WITH MOF (KANAMOTO, DIR OVERSEAS PUBLIC INVESTMENT DIV) IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF (A), STRESSING POINTS THAT USG WISHED TO (1) FORM CONCENSUS AMONG MAJOR CREDITOR COUNTRIES AND, (2) ELICIT IDEAS HOW SUBJECT COULD BE HANDLED IN THE DAC AND UNCTAD IV MEETINGS.
- 2. KANAMOTO SAID MOF STAFF IN CLOSE AGREEMTN WITH USG POSITION. MOF FIRMLY OPPOSED GENERALIZED DEBT RELIEF FOR LDCS AND IS ONLY WILLING TO REVIEW SUBJECT ON CASE-BY-CASE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BASIS. KANAMOTO FORESAW POSSIBILITY THAT ON INDIVQIDUAL DEBT RESCHEDULINGS U.S. AND JAPAN MIGHT TAKE DIFFERENT POSITIONS,

AS IN THE RECENT CASE OF INDIA. NEVERTHELESS, MOF VERY MUCH WELCOMES KEEPING POSTED ON U.S. VIEWS SO THAT U.S. AND JAPAN CAN EXCANGE VIEWS AND COORDINATE POSITIONS PRIOR TO FORMAL MEETINGS. KANAMOTO ALSO SAID THAT WHILE MOF OPPOSES GERERALIZED DEBT RELIEF, JAPAN WISHES TO AVOID A CONFRONTATION WITH LDCS ON THIS ISSUE, BUT IS IN A QUANDRY HOW TO ACHEIVE THAT.

- 3. FINATT STRESSED POINTS MADE IN REF (C) THAT INTERESTS FO INDIVIDUAL DEBTOR COUNTRIES DIFFER TOWIDELY. FOR EXAMPLE, SOME SEA COUNTRIES RELY HEAVILY UPON PRIVATQE CAPITAL MARKETS AND THAT IT MIGHT NOT BE IN THEIR INTEREST TO SUPPORT GENERALIZED DEBT RELIEF QIF THAT ADVERSELY AFFECTED CREDIT STANDING OF ENTIRE LDC GROUP. SUCH COUNTRIES MIGHT REFRAIN FROM SUPPORTING DEMANDS FORGENERAL DEBT RELIEF IF THEY UNDERSTOOD DEMANDS FOR GENERAL DEBT RELIEF IF THEY UNDERSTOOD CLEARLY THAT SUCH A POLICY COULD BE AGAINST INTEREST. FINATT NOTED THAT MOF VICE MINISTER YOSHIDA QWAS EMBARKING ON A TRIP OF SEA COUNTRIES WHICH MIGHT PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR GOJ TO SOUND OUT HOW THESE COUNTTRIES VIEWED THE PROBLEM.
- 4. FINATT EMPHASIZED THAT THE USG "CANNOT ACCEPT ANY FORM OF GENERALIZED DEBT RELIEF" (REF (A)). MOF OFFICIALS PLEASEQD THHAT U.S. WAS TAKING A HARD LINE BUT GAVE LITTLE INDICATION WHAT ROLE GOJ WAS WILLING TO PLAY TO PREVENT POSSIBILITY OF ACRIMONIOUS DISCUSSION AT NIAROBI.
- 5. EMOFF DELIVERED PAPER INCORPORATING SUBSTANCE OF REFTEL (A) TO FONOFF REPS IN UN AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION BUREAUS. BOTH INDICATED INTRA-MINISTRY DISAGREEMENT ON PROPER GOJ RESPONSE TO LDC DEMANDS REMAINS UNRESOLVED, BUT THAT INTRA-MINISTRY DISCUSSIONS RE UNCTAD AND LDC DEBT QARE TO BEGIN IN NEAR FUTURE. UN BUREAU REP (TANAKA, ECONOMIC AFFAIRS DIV), ALSO INQUIREED RE PRESENT STATUS OF EARLIER UK/US IDEA OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE OF MAJOR CREDITOR COUNTRIES. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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6. ACTION REQUESTED: INFO FOR RESPONSE TO ABOVE QUESTION. HODGSON

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## Message Attributes

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Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, GOVERNMENT DEBTS, DEBT REPAYMENTS

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